

Soccer team two wins from nationals



Photo/Jason Collins

Shelton soccer players Erica Clidewell (L) carries ball up field while Maria Lizcano provides support.

By K.A. West
Staff Writer

The Shelton State women's soccer team is only two wins away from a plane trip to Arizona and a berth in the national tournament.

To get there, the Lady Bucs (13-4-2) must defeat

See Soccer
Page 4

Annual Homecoming benefits Shelton's changing identity

By Julie Shukla
Staff Writer

Rick Rogers, president of Shelton State, has often said that he strives for Shelton to be one of the top 25 community colleges in the nation. In order to do this, student activities are important assets that make up Shelton's identity, and Homecoming in particular gives students an opportunity to participate and be a part of the school.

According to Susan Mohun, assistant dean of stu-



Photo/Brandon Lovett

The Clock Tower recently built at Shelton along with the shrubbery and other landscape improvements benefits the image of the college.

dents, since Shelton doesn't have a football team, Homecoming is incorporated around the basketball game, and attendance for these

games has really grown. Shelton itself has also grown, and Mohun believes that the school now has more of the "traditional students" who are those that want to be more involved.

Shelton does have a philosophy in regards to student involvement, and Homecoming ties into this.

Mohun said it is "Shelton's philosophy to give students

See Homecoming
Page 6

Caring but demanding teacher dies suddenly



Carol Bussey worked at Shelton for approximately 10 years.

By Amy P. Oswalt
Editor

The sudden death of history instructor Carol Bussey shocked many students and

See Bussey
Page 3



By Amy P. Oswalt
Editor

Keeping the spirit of homecoming going at Shelton were 16 nominees for homecoming queen.

The students were nominated by some of the college's organizations such as Phi Theta Kappa, the basketball team, the soccer team, the dance line, and even one of the *Courier's* very own staff

members met the qualifications to be a nominee (don't act so surprised, and no, no one nominated herself—I asked).

Qualifications included being female (sorry guys), at least 18 years-old, already having 12 hours completed, being active in school and an overall 3.0 grade point average (smart people seem to have more benefits in

Four of the five finalists



college for some reason).

After meeting these qualifications, the 16 nominees had to endure grueling interviews from a panel of judges consisting of intimidating people from throughout Tuscaloosa county.

Each contestant was interviewed separately and questioned about most of the things that college students rarely think

about and usually don't have a clue about—their goals in life and their opinion on current events.

However, according to unnamed sources, each nominee did a great job. Not one of them fainted, but there were reports of sweaty palms and rapid heartbeats that could

See Queen
Page 5

Inside The Courier

- Q&A with Ms. Music Department, Syble Coats
- Men's and Women's basketball preview—plus pics!
- Show off your creative side
- And much more!



Alcohol Awareness Week began Nov. 3

Shelton State Community College's Phi Theta Kappa will be sponsoring Alcohol and Drug Awareness Week Nov. 3-6. Information and activities will be available during the day in the atrium to promote awareness of the dangers and effects of alcohol and drugs. Activities include "Alcohol 101," simulation goggles, various organizations and more.

The "In Memory of..." table will be available in order to post the names of friends and loved ones who have suffered or perished due to alcohol or drug-related incidents.

Wednesday, Nov. 5, Phi Theta Kappa will be showing *The Basketball Diaries* at 4 p.m. in the Alabama Recital Hall. Admission is free. A Bradford Health Services counselor will be available for

debriefing.

At 7 p.m. Shelton State will host a Community forum in the D-rooms. Anyone from the school and community is invited to attend this question and answer opportunity with a panel of professionals involved with alcohol and drug-related issues.

Thursday, Nov. 6, Bradford Health Services will be hosting its Parent Support Group in the D-rooms from 7-9 p.m. Concerned parents are encouraged to attend to find answers and/or help for their children.

Phi Theta Kappa would also like to invite students and the public to the Candlelight Vigil held Thursday, Nov. 6 at 9 p.m. in the atrium. This event will be held to remember the victims and their families who have suffered from alcohol or drugs.

Jazz Ensemble to perform Nov. 4

The Jazz Ensemble of Shelton State Community College will present its Autumn Concert on Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bean-Brown Theatre of the Sandra Hall Ray Fine Arts Center.

Directed by Dr. Alan Blackshear, the ensemble is composed of 24 members, including seven "senior" members.

Local musicians Merle Lemley (piano), John Hasson (alto saxophone), Rush Hill (tenor saxophone), Tom Mullen, (trombone), Gwen Crocker (French horn) Dave Reynolds (bass) and the oldest member of the ensemble at age 83, Chesley Johnson (trumpet).

The seven retired musicians supplement the 17 student members of the ensemble.

"All seven of these people wanted a place to play. My philosophy is that as a community college we should try to involve as many people from the community as possible," said Blackshear. "Plus,

these musicians were growing up when a lot of this music that we play was written, so they understand the style very well and help our traditional students with the swing style."

Selections in the

Thursday evening concert on Nov. 4

include many standards:

"Autumn Leaves," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Can't Help Lovin' That Man of Mine," "Sing, Sing, Sing," and Pat Boone's version of Ozzy Osborne's "Crazy Train." Also featured will be two vocal selections, "It's Almost Like Being In Love" from the musical *Brigadoon*, sung by April Rigsby and "The Lady Is a Tramp," sung by Michael Simmons.

A trio composed of musicians Merle Lemley (piano), Dave Reynolds (bass), and Britt Payne (drums) will also play several selections including Gershwin's "A Foggy Day (In London Town)."

The 7:30 p.m. performance is free and open to the public.

Off the Shelf...

By Glen Johnson

In *The Fortress of Solitude*, Jonathan Lethem has given us a near epic that follows 25 years in a Brooklyn neighborhood as seen through the eyes and experiences of two neighborhood boys, one black and one white.

The story starts in 1970 when Mrs. Isabel Vendle arrives to become the first person to move back to Brooklyn: the first drop of the flood which will come to be called gentrification.

From that point the book chronicles the changes that occur both to the boys and their surroundings.

Lethem, who won the National Book Critics Award for his previous work

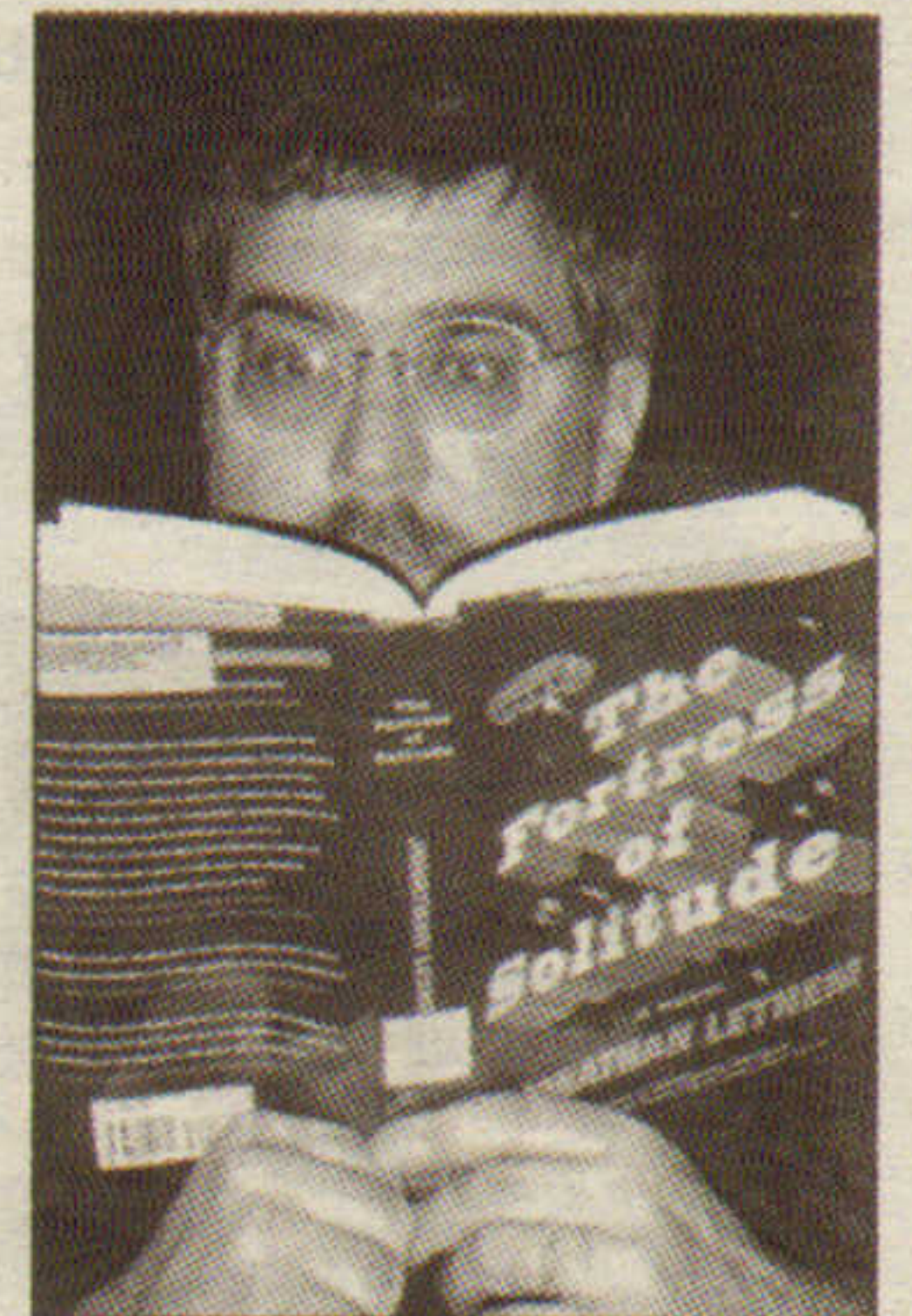
Motherless Brooklyn, shows his skill as a writer and his remarkable ability for re-creating an era.

Not just chronicling the events, he also manages to immerse the reader in the sights, sounds, slang, music, pop culture and pharmacology of the times—the internal organs and viscera, as it were.

As the two boys grow and develop, so grows the nation.

He even lets us feel (or relive) the resultant national shame the country experience in the early '80s over the clothing we wore in the late '70s.

Lethem writes up to the challenge and should bring pleasure and maybe even a



Photo/Brandon Lovett

grin of nostalgia to any reader who lived through the times of this story.

Melodies showcased wide and deep performing talent

From the first scene to the last, the solid audiences for *Broadway Medlodies & Moments* Oct. 30-Nov. 2 seemed impressed with what Shelton State music and theatrical talent can produce.

The mixture of 18 separate scenes and casts which comprised the presentation was handled smoothly and palatably by the ensemble of 41 actors and singers.

The company seemed to revel in the challenge of hopping from the heavy-handedness of *A Dolls House* to the light-hearted fare of *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* to the unabashed sexiness of

Chicago to the classical intonations of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer night's Dream*.

Theatre Department chairman Michael Carr had the idea to use the revue technique, which maximized participation of the theatre and music students of the college.

Theatre Tuscaloosa stalwart Charles Prosser directed the show and music instructor Glinda Blackshear directed the singing.

A new, snappy addition was made by University of Alabama dance student DeAnna Sheelly who choreographed the show.

The pacing and juxtapositioning of scenes proved to be a highlight, rather than a challenge. For instance the

"Rogers and Hammerstein Medley" which closed Act I, was a visual and aural feast as the Shelton Singers crooned and twirled their way through such crowd-pleasing favorites as "The Sound of Music" and "Oklahoma."

Blackshear whowed a good touch for getting the late-teens and twenty-somethings to express snapshots of emotion as they blended together one vignette after another.

This could be the start of a tradition, as, arguably, there is no other way than an annual revue to showcase such wide and deep talent.

Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic

freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Shelton's Nursing Association honored

On Oct. 18, Shelton State nursing students and staff attended the Alabama Association of Nursing Student's 53rd Annual Convention Awards Banquet.

Shelton received the award for Most Association Members to Register and the Most Outstanding Community Health Project.

Shelton also received the Chapter President Leadership



Award.

Margaret Booth received the award for Most Outstanding Executive Member, and Jackie C. Williams, a nursing instructor at Shelton, received the award for Most Outstanding Chapter Advisor.

Auditions Nov. 4

Auditions for *A Christmas Story*, Theatre Tuscaloosa's holiday play began Nov. 3 and will continue through Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Bean-Brown Theatre on the campus of Shelton State.

This delightful classic follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest for a genuine Red Ryder BB Gun under the tree for Christmas. All the elements from the much loved short story and motion picture are included in the production - the little Orphan Annie decoder pin, Ralphie's fantasy scenarios, the "leg lamp" and more.

Children's roles available are for three 9-year-old boys, one 5-year-old boy, one 11-year-old boy and two 9-year-old girls. Two adult male and two adult female roles will also be cast. A prepared monologue is not required. Persons auditioning will be asked to read from the script.

A Christmas Story directed by Michael Carr, is scheduled to be presented Dec. 10-21 at the Bean-Brown Theatre.

For additional information call Theatre Tuscaloosa at 205-391-2277.

Bussey From Page 1

staff at Shelton State.

Bussey worked at the college for approximately 10 years until her death on Oct. 27.

Her career at Shelton began in what was formerly known as the Success Center—now the Learning Center.

In 1993, Bussey became a member of the library staff working in public services. During this time, Bussey was able to attain her master's degree in history from the University of Alabama.

Her degree enabled Bussey to then become a history instructor at Shelton in 1996.

The dedication that Bussey showed while working and going to school impressed those who knew her.

"One of the things I liked most about Carol was that she set goals for herself. I think it's nice when you see people who

are goal-oriented—who plot it, plan it, and do it," said Debbie Grimes, who worked with Bussey in library services.

Bussey also impressed many at Shelton with her serious desire for her students to learn.

"She had a lot of spunk. She always wanted things to work out for her students. And she would certainly do what she could to help them out," said Susan Saylor, division chairperson of Behavioral Studies, who worked with Bussey for many years.

Bussey's "spunk" may have given some students a more negative impression of her than was deserved, but most came to have definite respect for her.

"She had really strong viewpoints on certain issues. I liked her attitude even though she came off as hard.

Sometimes she could sort of scare some of the students," said Julie Shukla, one of Bussey's former students.

Even though Bussey may

have seemed "hard," others knew a soft side to her.

Kelly Ryan served as Bussey's work-study for three years.

"She was like a second mother to me," said Ryan simply.

On a college-wide voice mail message, Rick Rogers, President of Shelton State, explained that Bussey represented the college very well by making a positive difference in the lives of others.

"Her students loved and benefited from her commitment to teaching and learning and her friends enjoyed and appreciated her wit and loyalty," said Rogers.

And that commitment also earned Bussey a PhD in secondary education from the University of Alabama. Bussey finished the requirements for this degree in August of this year.

Although the feelings at Shelton are of great loss, most feel that Bussey's legacy will go on making a positive impact in the lives of others.



It was a nail-biter! But first place in the pumpkin contest finally went to the Cosmotology Department for their pumpkin "Jack of Nails." Second place went to Systems Improvement Team 5 for their pumpkin "Our Little Pumpkin Butt," and third place went to the Fredd Campus for "Freddie the Vampire."



Hey you...



Yes, you reading this paper.

Are you an artist, photographer, painter or illustrator?
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Soccer From Page 1

Hiawassee in Athens, Tenn., in the first round of the District G tournament on Nov. 3. In their previous meeting on Oct. 24, Shelton State won 4-0.

A win will likely earn a district final match with No. 7 Young-Harris (Ga.) College on Nov. 7. If the Lady Bucs

Bossier-Parish's goals came from a penalty kick and a direct kick.

Kickin' it with...

#5 Maria Lizcano

Sport: Soccer (midfielder)

Year: Freshman

Major/minor:
Architecture/Business

Hometown: Birmingham

(born in Columbia)

Birthday: Jan. 16, 1984

Favorite...



Photo/Jason Collins

Shelton soccer player Brooklyn Lewis carries the ball up field and through the opposing team.

battle past Young-Harris, they will be among the top eight teams in the country fighting for the national championship in Phoenix, Ariz.

"If we get to the point where we face Young-Harris, we'll be one of the top 16 teams in the country, and only the top eight go to nationals," Shelton State head coach Nellie Christian said. "For any team that plays Young-Harris, that team is going to have to be technically perfect. They are very quick, and they'll totally exploit any mistakes."

"The game plan for anybody should be to strike quickly. They're expecting to walk through the district finals — they're [already] making reservation for Arizona. I've got to make sure that when we step on the field, if we're fortunate to get that far, we've got to take advantage in the first ten minutes. From then on, it will be a battle."

On Oct. 19, Shelton State tied Spartanburg Methodist (S.C.) 1-1, with freshman Molly Einfeldt scoring the lone goal. The Pioneers' only goal came off a penalty kick.

The Lady Bucs closed out their regular season with a 4-2 victory over Bossier-Parish at home, where they haven't lost since Aug. 30. Einfeldt led Shelton State with two goals. Freshman midfielder Erica Glidewell added her second score of the season, and Lindsey Tate came off the bench to score her first goal.

Color: Blue

Music: "Everything but country...I love techno."

TV: "I love soap operas in Spanish; they're different from the American ones. [Spanish soaps] are more realistic. I like MTV2 and the shows on MTV."

Food: "I love Colombian food. It's not like Mexican at all. We have many soups, like ajiaco...every region has different foods. (Patacon Pizao restaurant in Atlanta.)"

Movie: "La vendedora de rosas (The Seller of Roses). It's a Colombian movie. It's a really good movie from a really good director. I like funny movies like Miss Congeniality, but I'm more into mysterious movies like Seven."

Pet peeves: "People that take things without asking first. I have to know the person and like the person. I'm clean, and I don't like unclean people."

Hobbies: "I like to hang out with my friends. I love to play soccer, and I love parties. I like to go out to restaurants and go clubbing. I love to hear music, far more than TV."

What do you like most about playing for the team?

"I love playing with this team because of the people, because they're nice and cool to play [with]. I can talk to them; I like

See Soccer cont'd,

Page 7

Guys trying to follow up on best season ever

By Shanika Lavender
Staff Writer

Some people think that one person can lead a team to a victory. But according to every member of the Buccaneer basketball team that is not true.

You need help from your teammates and coaching staff. The players of Shelton State Community College basketball team put in greater amounts of time and energy than anyone could imagine.

Between school, studying, and a long day of practice, these athletes are exhausted by

of last season?

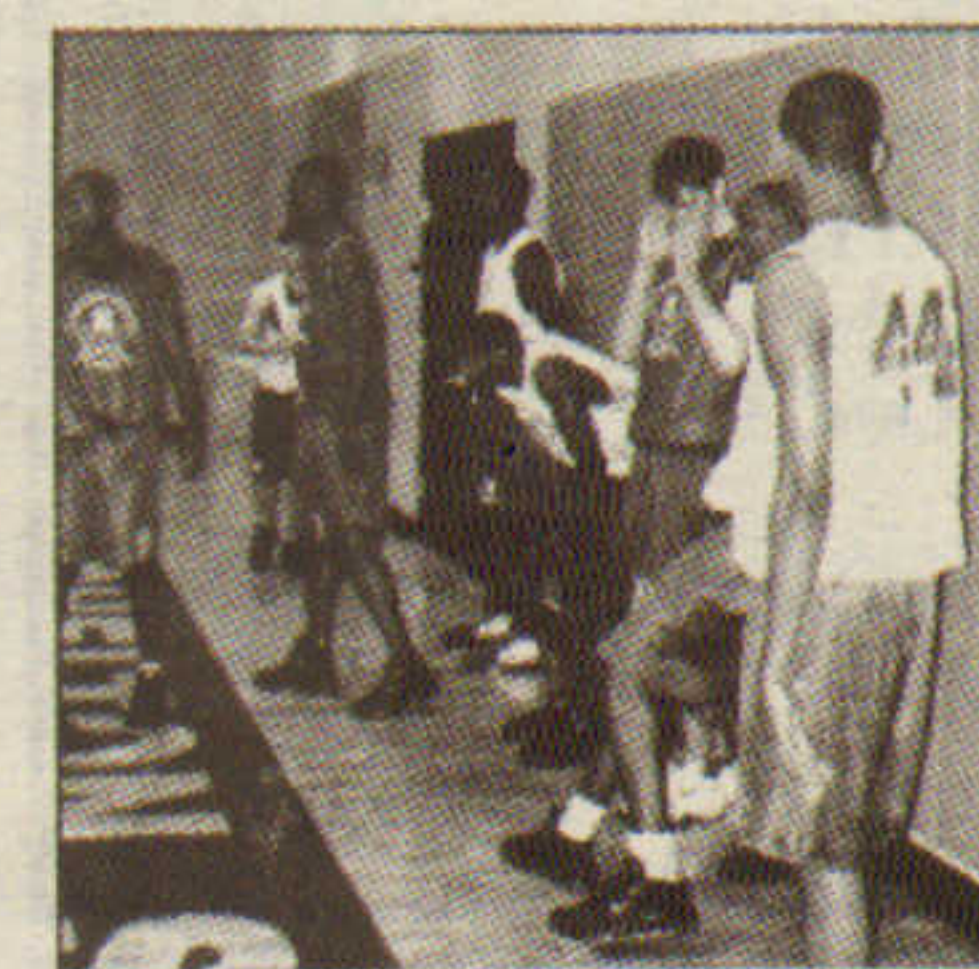
There are 10 freshman players trying to pave their



way through, and the other seven are sophomores who have already made names for themselves.

"I do not know how many freshmen will start this year. But as a team we should not have to compete for positions because we are one," said sophomore Joseph Martin.

The freshmen players such as Marcus Miles, Miguel Harris, Clifton Davis, Hassan Riggs, Ronald Parker, Keith Williamson, Leonard Scott, Julian Gladness, Troy Smith, and Samuel Mauldin all look up to Joseph Martin and the other upperclassman for sup-



the end of the day.

Will they have a good season with the first home game being just a couple of weeks away?

Coach Mohun was asked about the season. "We still have a lot of work to do, but each and every day we are getting closer to achieving our goal."

The team had an excellent season last year, winning the state championship for the first time.

Will this season be a repeat

port.

"As a freshman I played a lot last year, and all of my teammates look up to me, but I also feel that a lot of pressure is put on me to lead the team to a victory," said Martin.

Returning sophomores include: Kareem Ward, Joseph Martin, Tavaris Swann, Albert Lewis, Matt Brown, Frank Moore, and Patrick Culver.

With all of this practice and studying makes a few people wonder does Shelton's team have a social life?



"Yes, basketball only takes a half of my day. I still have time to socialize with my teammates and friends outside of the team," said freshman Clifton Douglass.

With factors such as being miles away from home, having a curfew, maintaining academic excellence, and the hardships of being a student, the men's basketball team looks for the dedication of their fellow teammates as their main support system in order to perform well on the court.

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Queen

From Page 1

almost be heard from across the room.

"I was so nervous that I was sweating in every area of my body," said Megan Howard, one of the 16 interviewed who may or may not be permanently scarred.

After the interviews, five finalists were selected. These five will campaign for the votes of the student body.

Part of their campaign will consist of presentations convincing the rest of us of why we should vote for them. They will be displayed in the Martin Campus atrium from Nov. 5-12. The students must cast their vote on by Nov. 12.

If we, as part of the student body, are lucky, we may get candy or some other type of goodie from the prospective queens (hint, hint to the five prospectives).

The five finalists are Jessica Christian, Angela McDaniel, Donna Owens, Julie Shukla, and Angela Thomas.

See Queen cont'd
Page 8

College involved in controversy over artwork



Photo/Amy P. Oswalt

Artist John Trobaugh conducts an art appreciation class at Shelton.

The college finds itself involved in a controversy over the display of artwork by part-time instructor, John Trobaugh, who had his "Double Duty" exhibit taken down amidst complaints that it was offensive.

Trobaugh describes the series of photographs as "satirical" on his website "johnart.com." Using Ken and G.I. Joe action figures, Trobaugh employed micro-photography techniques to show them in various poses about the University of Alabama campus. Though fully clothed, many people

who have seen the show thought they were suggestive of a homosexual lifestyle.

According to Trobaugh, he went through the proper channels to get his display approved before mounting in the gallery across from the Bean-Brown Theatre. But once the

show was up, many complaints were registered, according to some college staff members.

Krist Lien, chairman of the college's art department, said he was disappointed with the decision to remove the show. "Dr. Rogers and I finally decided we would agree to disagree about that."

Trobaugh remains adamant the show should be given the same treatment as any other approved show. Shelton has agreed to display the photos, but in a more remote location in the building.

Lady Bucs look for another successful season



By Janine Cooper
Staff Writer

The Shelton State Lady Bucs had an overall winning season last year.

Coach Madonna Thompson hopes that they will repeat last year's record or do better. The record for last year was 25 wins to eight losses.

The six players returning from last season are Leanne Grayson, Marie Heacox, Emily Nalls, Laura Rombokas, Nicole Thomas, and Marquita Westbrooks. Added to these six are four freshman: Christie Ayers, Kristina Gardener, Jaquayla King, Kristi Payne, one red-shirt freshman, Amelia Toole, and one transfer student, Chantarius Stone.



Thompson said that so far she is impressed by the way the girls play together. "The team will do well as long as we play together as a team," said Stone. This is Stone's first

See Lady Bucs
Page 6

Undergraduate research experience announced

Announcing an undergraduate research experience for students at The University of Alabama (UA) and Stillman College (SC) and for graduating Shelton State College Students transferring to UA or SC.

This program is supported by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Science Education Program, and applicants should be sophomores (second year in college) or juniors (returning interns) majoring in Biology, Microbiology, or Chemistry at The University of Alabama or Stillman College. In addition, sophomores at Shelton State Community College who will be attending either UA or SC in 2004-2005 are also eligible to apply.

The 24 students who are accepted into this initiative will participate in a spring 2004 seminar and a year-long program of independent research, which includes a visiting scientist speakers series, a summer research symposium, and travel to present their research at professional meetings.

The program starts off with a 2004 spring semester semi-

nar, meeting on Fridays 2-3:50 p.m. to discuss the "Language of Science." The seminar will meet on the campuses of UA and SC, alternating campuses each week and is required for all new interns.

During a ten-week summer period, Hughes Undergraduate Research Interns conduct research projects under the guidance of faculty mentors. For new interns, there will be two-weeks of morning workshops on the processes of science, inquiry, and discovery.

Weekly meetings allow students to discuss their research experiences. At least one field trip will expose students to the application of scientific research and inquiry. In July, students present their research in a poster symposium.

In the following academic year, Hughes Undergraduate Research Interns will continue their research and will benefit from a joint visiting scientist series on the campuses of The University of Alabama and Stillman College. Hughes Undergraduate Research Interns are eligible to apply for a second year of internship.

Interns will receive, a

\$3,100 summer participant stipend, and \$500 for living expenses will be added onto their ACT Cards.

To learn more about this program and others sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Sciences Education Program grant, visit our web site at: <http://www.as.ua.edu/biology/hhmi/>

For application materials and the list of research projects, please contact: Dr. Ronald Hood, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama. Telephone 348-1817, e-mail: rhoo@biology.as.ua.edu; Dr. Ruth Washington, Department of Biology, Stillman College. Telephone: 366-8948 e-mail: jsingh@stillman.edu; rwashington@stillman.edu; Dr. Karen Rose, Department of Biology Box 115, Shelton State Community College. Telephone: 391-2259 email: krose@sheltonstate.edu

Application Deadline is Nov. 17, 2003. Women and minority students underrepresented in sciences are especially encouraged to apply.



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Lady Bucs From Page 5

year to play for the Lady Bucs.

At least five of the six girls returning to the team will be the starters. This amount of amount of experience on the court should play a major part in the girls' success.

New to the team also are changes in the women's workout routine. Thompson says that the their routine is more physical than usual.

"They're doing a lot more weight lifting and body building," said Thompson. The Lady Bucs' season starts on Nov. 7. Their first games are

in a tournament in Pensacola, Fla.

Right now, their most challenging opponent may be Northwest Shoals on Jan. 31 at home.



Phi Theta Kappa's Oct. 29 Profiles in Leadership featured Guy A. Caldwell, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the

Department of Biological Sciences at The University of Alabama. His presentation included the use of Comparative Genomics to Model Human Disease. Caldwell led a UA effort that discovered the function of a protein that can suppress the potentially harmful clumping of other proteins. The discovery has implications in dystonia, Parkinson's disease and other neurological disorders.

Shelton gets a silver

Shelton State Community College has been awarded the Silver Award from the 2003 Alabama Quality Award Conference. The award will be presented at the Bryant Conference Center on the University of Alabama campus on Nov. 5.

Sponsored by the Alabama Productivity Center, the Alabama Quality Awards recognize organizations that undertake the challenge of changing focus and achieving higher levels of performance excellence.

The award competition was open to representatives of small business, service and government agencies, manufacturing, education and health care.

Shelton State was awarded the Silver Award for its Quality Month Team which was chartered to plan, coordinate, conduct and evaluate the College's annual observance of National Quality Month in October 2002 and to integrate the observance into the College's 50th Anniversary Jubilee celebration. Members of the team included Kim Inman-Smith (Leader), Cindy Wyatt, Marian Pierce, Beth Delbridge, Debbie Hammons,

Molly Booth, Jackie Williams, Carrie Rogers, Wendy Jones, Deborah Bonner, Janet Hendrix, JoeAnn Cousette, Fran Viscelli, Maggie Haughton, Johnny Parker and Lucy Kubiszyn.

Quality Month 2002 included a month-long series of Quality-related events including the Breakfast of Champions®, Teams Who Cook, Paper Airplane Contests, Games & Things Day, and Dynamic-Duo Comedy team presentation. Each event was designed to energize the workplace with fun, humor and recognition of achievement and to encourage greater participation in Quality-related activities.

"Shelton State continues to benefit from the hard work and commitment of its staff and faculty to improve every aspect of the service we provide to our students and the community at large. All of us offer our heartiest congratulations to the team that won this award. Their effort is another shining example of how well our Systems Improvement Teams work for Total Quality Management," said Shelton State President Rick Rogers.

Homecoming From Page 1

opportunities to enjoy traditional clubs and organizations identified with college life," especially for those that won't be transferring to a larger university.

According to Mohun, over the last two years, some major, growing programs that have been created for student participation are the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Student Action Team just to name a few. Phi Theta Kappa is an honor society, and the Student Action Team is a new group that takes representatives from each area of the college to inform others of what is going on in their department. This allows everyone to work together.

In order to maintain all of these activities though, there must be funding. Mohun said, "Since the budget isn't extravagant, we try to provide fun, low-cost activities."

It is clear that Shelton is

determined to have individuality, but with the young campus not yet paid for, there's still a long road ahead. However, one particular group that is helping in the growth and connection with the school, students, and faculty is the Alumni Association.

According to Wendy Jones, director of Public Relations and Alumni Affairs, October and November are important months to encourage people to be a part of the Alumni Association, mainly because Homecoming takes place around this time. She believes that Homecoming is basically a time for former students to return and join with current students.

Jones said 3,000 letters were sent out trying to get people involved, from former students and faculty, current faculty, and friends of the community. Much of the support given to this organization is from current employees.

According to Jones, much time has been spent in the past year working to create benefits

for everyone who joins, and one advantage is the Shelton State Saver Card that all members will receive. She said that the membership dues can also be a reward to some because that same money goes towards scholarships.

Jones said that the hope is for the Alumni Association to grow because historically community colleges struggle with this. There are many transfer students, and people generally stay dedicated to the college they finished last. Therefore, she said, some goals for the Alumni Association are to offer more scholarships, have an alumnus of the year, and for alumni to be more active in recruiting.

According to Jones, this group is an opportunity for people to add a personal touch. This is the same idea for other organizations the school is trying to push because the faculty and staff feel that this will give Shelton its identity making it a superior college with active student life.

SSCC Homecoming 2003

Nov. 13 Martin Campus

11-1 p.m. Student activities & games

1 p.m. Pep Rally

5:30 p.m. Women's Basketball Game

7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball Game with

crowning of Homecoming Queen during half-time

Nov. 5-12

Student body votes for Homecoming Queen in atrium



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Q&A with Syble Coats: *music teacher and keyboardist extraordinaire*

Sixth in a series of interviews with the people who make Shelton the community college of the arts in Alabama

By Emily M. Sartain
Staff Writer

Syble Coats, the first music teacher hired by Shelton State, is now the head of the music department at the college.

With a background in music dating back to her early childhood, Coats is able to contribute an abundance of musical knowledge to her students.

Coats teaches classes such as music appreciation and the fundamentals of music as well as giving individual instruction in piano.

Coats also heads up the Terrific Tuesday program, finding talent in-house and throughout West Alabama for Shelton's weekly performances in the Alabama Recital Hall each Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Where did you attend college and what was your major?

I attended the University of Alabama. I received my master's as well as my undergraduate degree in music performance with emphasis on piano.

How did you end up here

at Shelton?

After I graduated from college, I opened up a studio teaching piano. I began looking for a college job. Tuscaloosa had just opened an extension center for Brewer State Junior College.

I started my career at Brewer State Junior College in 1979 working part time. Shelton State Technical College and Brewer State Junior College combined to become Shelton State Community College.

When Shelton Technical School and Brewer State combined to make Shelton State Community College, they started interviewing for music jobs.

I was able to get a job and start teaching music courses. I was the first music teacher at Shelton, and I started out teaching music appreciation and fundamentals of music. I started working full time in 1983.

We had to teach at different places like ten Hoor at the University of Alabama and Rosedale Elementary for a while.

Is being the head of the music department more work than a music teacher?

It is a little more responsibility in dealing with administrative and paper matters. I have made out the class schedules.

I also have to deal with the books from the bookstore.

I have to make an overall picture about how we want to make an image with the music department in the public.

The other music teachers

are wonderful and we work well together, so they help me make decisions. Sometimes it is harder, but with the help of the other teachers it is not so bad.

Is your favorite instrument the piano since you play it?

Of course it is!

How long have you been playing the piano?

I was very fortunate growing up, because I lived next door to a piano teacher.

I started playing when I was six, and since then I have studied piano.

Who has inspired you?

There are two kinds of teachers that inspired me. The first kind is the nurturing teachers that I had when I was growing up who let me get away with things, because I was so busy with band and other things.

The second kind is really a specific teacher, Amanda Penick. She was a teacher at the University of Alabama and was a mentor to me.

She always encouraged me to study, learn, and perform. She was always interested in what I did.

In fine arts do you think the teacher should perform or do what they are teaching?

I think that it is very important that as music teachers we need to keep our performance skill high.

We need to do that whether we are accompanying or performing solos.

We need to be involved because, if we are stimulating while working, then we are



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Music chairwoman Sybil Coats takes a turn at the keyboard herself. Coats has taught hundreds (if not thousands) to play the piano or play it better. But she does not neglect her own practice regimen.

teaching better.

Where have you played and where is your favorite place that you have played?

I have mostly played here at Shelton State. Prior to playing at Shelton State, I played at Jacksonville State, the University of South Alabama, and in state music conventions.

I have also accompanied many students in contests and played in musicals.

The most fun place that I have played in is the Alabama Power Recital Hall here at Shelton.

My all time favorite place where I played was in an orchestra when I won a contest in college. It was pretty won-

derful with all the pictures and television.

Do you have any advice to students who are trying to make a career in music?

It is a wonderful life, but you really have to want to be a musician. It requires a lot of time and practice to develop skills.

You also have to learn as much as possible about all kinds of music, so that you are very diverse. Today, you also have to be able to keep up with technology.

You really have to be dedicated, because talent is one thing but hard work is another. There are many job opportunities with music besides just teaching.

Soccer cont'd From Page 4

the communication. There's a lot of talent and I feel really comfortable playing with my team, because there's a lot to learn and at the same time, things to teach."

What's the biggest difference between Colombians and Americans?

"Americans are harder working. You all have a routine and work hard every day. Colombians, we work hard every day, but we're more party-type of people.

From when you're really little, you just grow up in that atmosphere. You live with your parents [during] college—it's normal. But at the same

time, you have the liberty to do whatever you want, because your parents were raised the same way. And the culture is so different. What I think is that some Americans go so crazy when they get out of their homes, because they're raised not to do anything. [Colombians] don't go out of homes so early because we have the freedom."

Describe Columbia.

"I'm so proud of being from there. People know [Columbia] from [stories about] the drug problems or guerilla problem, but it's a really peaceful country at the same time. We are a rich country in coffee, flowers, sugar, textiles...we have a lot of emerald mines and petroleum. It's rich in all kinds of things; it's rich in people. The people

are really nice...it's such a beautiful country. I'd really like the media to present the good things, and not always the bad things. We have a really good education [system]



and beautiful cities. And awesome food.

Do you want to go back to Colombia to live?

"If the situation gets better, of course. But, [the country] is in a pretty bad economic situation right now. The opportunity of coming here is really beneficial, because you'll be

able to work anywhere. This country is so rich, because you all are such hard workers. It's so strict and organized...it's so calm here. I love it. We don't have that in Colombia. If the United States could help us, that would be awesome."

Why do you love playing soccer?

"It's one of the best things that ever happened to my life. I learned to play in Colombia, in the streets of my neighborhood with my neighbors—old men and boys when I was six years old."

What is your best and worst skill?

"I'm good at working the ball with my feet and taking out people. What I need to work on is my shooting...I have a lot of stuff I have to work on, but that's the first

thing that comes to my mind. I have to work on taking the ball to the goal and shooting."

What do you love most in a guy?

"Lots of personality and for him feel comfortable about himself. Lots of goals and to work hard."

Name one thing you want to do before you turn 30.

"I want to be an architect with my diploma, working somewhere making money for my family and me."

What's the nicest thing someone's ever done for you, and what's the nicest thing you've done for someone?

"The feeling that someone loves you; that's the nicest thing you can have from someone. To give love and be loved is the best."

Queen cont'd

From Page 5



Jessica Christian was nominated by the Shelton Singers. She is a graduate of Tuscaloosa County High School. Christian currently has a 3.6 grade point average. She is the Vice-President and Scholarship Team Leader of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of Bach to Rock, tutors in the Development Cohort, and holds a work-study job. She also participates in her church college group and Hand Bell Choir. Her parents are Dale and Sheila Christian from Northport.



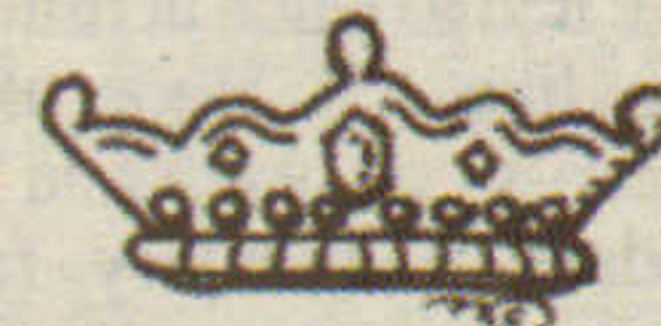
Angela McDaniel was nominated by SSANS. She is a graduate of Tuscaloosa County High School. She currently has a 3.3 grade point average. McDaniel is an active member and financial secretary of SSANS and a member of NSNA. She has received nominations from Who's Who Among Junior Colleges, was awarded best presentation and presenter in Maternal Child and Pediatrics. She is a member of Crosspoint Ministry at L.O.H.B.C. Every year she participates in the Christmas shoebox program. Her parents are David and Sherry McDaniel of Northport.



Donna Owens was nominated by the Office of Admissions and Records. She is a graduate of Hillcrest High School. She currently has a 3.0 grade point average. Owens is a Shelton State Ambassador and work study for the Shelton State Admissions Office. She volunteers at the VA Hospital, is a clerk for the Tuscaloosa License Commissioner, a babysitter, and a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. Her parents are Carrie and Eddie Owens of Tuscaloosa.

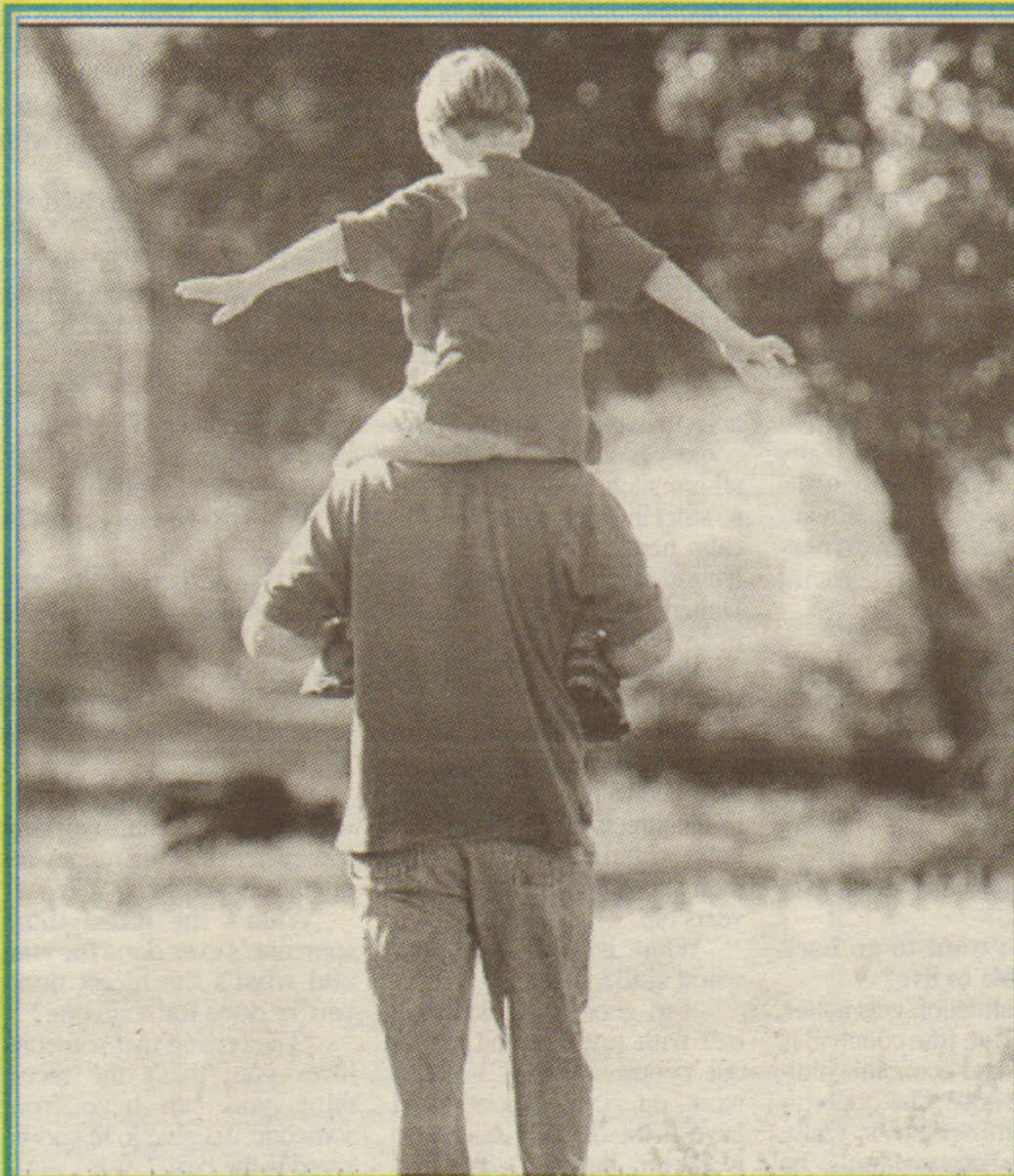


Julie Shukla was nominated by the *Shelton State Courier*. She is a graduate of Hueytown High School. Shukla currently has a 4.0 grade point average. She is a staff writer for the *Courier*, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and is a former officer of SGA. Shukla participates in church and other community activities such as Relay for life. She is the granddaughter of Sue Farr of Hueytown.



Angela Nicole Thomas was nominated by the Shelton State Women's Basketball team. She is a graduate of Faith Academy. She currently has a 3.5 GPA. Thomas is a member of Team Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and is active in community service. as a member of the Women's Basketball Team, Thomas was selected to the All-State Tournament Team for 2002-2003. Her parents are Aden and Bea Thomas of Citronelle, Ala.

Homecoming Queen Finalists



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